

To All Media Houses

28 May 2019

Free State Legislature welcomes the appointment of the new Free State Cabinet

**Bloemfontein, 28 May 2018** – The Speaker of the Free State Legislature, Hon Zanele Sifuba, welcomes the swift announcement and the appointment of the New Cabinet by the Premier. “This is indicative that the Premier is ready to work for the people of the province and there is no time to waste. We welcome the appointment of the new Cabinet and wish them well”, Hon Sifuba said. The Premier, Hon Sefora ‘Sisi’ Ntombela, announced the New Cabinet today during the media briefing and emphasised that “work must start immediately”.

The new Cabinet ushers in the beginning of the government work for the Sixth Provincial Administration. The appointment of the Provincial Cabinet is important because it enables the commencement of legislation and policy work, budgeting, service delivery and oversight.

In our own analysis, the Premier has announced a fairly balanced structure of capable men and women. Women constitute exactly 50% of the provincial cabinet which signifies confidence in women leadership within our province. The appoint of women in the cabinet is very important in ensuring that we intensify the struggle against gender oppression. Gender oppression in South Africa manifests itself in three forms, sex, colour and class. For far too long, a brutal system of capitalism, aided by sexism and racism continued to deprive women of their right to social fairness. These appointments offer us some confidence as a province and as a country that, we are on track towards breaking the backbone of the system of patriarchy. “I am delighted and really believe that the maintenance of a clear women parity in the executive is something we should not take lightly”. Hon Sifuba pointed out.

The Legislature also welcomes all members especially those who will be serving in the Provincial Executive for the first time. We wish them all the best in the fulfilment of their constitutional mandate.

New Members of the Executive Council are as follows:

1. Agriculture and Rural Development: Hon William Bulwane
2. Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs: Hon Thembeni Nxangisa
3. Finance: Hon Gadija Brown

4. Health: Hon Montsheng Tsiu

5. Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affair: Hon Makalo Mohale

6. Education: Hon Tate Makgoe

7. Public Works, Infrastructure and Human Settlements: Hon Motshidisi Koloji

8. Police, Roads and Transports: Hon Sam Mashinini

9. Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation: Hon Dimakatso Mahasa

10. Social Development: Hon Mamiki Qabathe

On this occasion, the Premier concluded her address by quoting Charlotte Maxeke and directing the quote to her new cabinet, she said: “this work is not for yourselves, kill that spirit of self and do not live above your people, but live with them.” The Premier concluded by congratulating all MECs and wished them well in their new responsibilities.

“An activist legislature that champions democracy”

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